



FERNDALE



CITY OF FERNDALE FINANCE DIRECTOR

Finance Director

City of Ferndale, Michigan

About Ferndale

The City of Ferndale is located in southeast Oakland County, Michigan, offering a dynamic urban experience with easy access to Detroit, the suburbs, and an international airport. Known for its award-winning downtown, thriving community events, excellent housing, and welcoming culture, Ferndale takes pride in providing a high quality of life to residents and visitors alike.

The Opportunity

Ferndale is seeking a Finance Director to join its senior leadership team. This highly visible position plays a key role in maintaining the City's strong financial standing, providing fiscal guidance, and ensuring the delivery of accurate and transparent financial services.

The Finance Director oversees the City's accounting and treasury functions, prepares the annual budget, coordinates the audit process, and manages debt issuance and repayment. The role supervises five employees (including a Deputy Director) and works closely with department heads on a \$23 million budget.

The successful candidate will demonstrate strategic financial leadership, a collaborative management style, and a commitment to Ferndale's core values: Inclusive, Inspired, Integrity, and Innovative.

Key Position Objectives

- BS&A System Implementation – Lead the City's transition from BS&A desktop to BS&A's cloud-based financial management system within the next 10 months.
- Financial Policy Updates – Revise the City's financial policies with an emphasis on incorporating Ferndale's mission, values, and equity commitments.
- Succession Planning – Coach, mentor, and develop staff to ensure continuity and future leadership capacity within the Finance Department.

- Performance Management – Monitor key performance indicators, including balanced budgets, fund balance targets, credit rating, and professional development goals.
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Ideal Candidate Profile

The next Finance Director will:

- Provide steady leadership to ensure balanced budgets and accurate quarterly reporting.
 - Empower department directors to manage their budgets effectively.
 - Support Ferndale's AA- credit rating and long-term capital improvement planning.
 - Build trust and collaboration across departments and with elected officials.
 - Bring fresh ideas to enhance equity, transparency, and efficiency in City procurement and financial practices.
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Qualifications

- Education: Bachelor's degree in accounting, finance, public administration, or related field required. Master's degree or CPA strongly preferred.
 - Experience: At least five years of professional municipal financial management or accounting, including supervisory experience.
 - Expertise: Thorough knowledge of municipal budgeting, accounting, debt management, investments, and financial reporting.
 - Leadership: Skilled in operations management, personnel administration, and labor negotiations.
 - Technical Skills: Proficiency with Microsoft Office 365 and ability to learn new software (including web-based systems).
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Compensation and Benefits

- Starting salary: \$104,954 – \$131,074 DOQ
- Excellent benefits package
- Investment in professional development and leadership growth
- Commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion – Ferndale is proud to be an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Why Ferndale?

This is more than a financial management role — it's an opportunity to make a lasting impact in a forward-thinking, inclusive community. With an award-winning downtown, a culture of innovation, and a leadership team committed to collaboration, Ferndale is the perfect place for a financial leader ready to help shape the City's future.